

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

SS-15 NSC-05 /061 W

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R 231547Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 954

INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB

JCS WASHDC

CSAF WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

USDELMC BRUSSELS

USDOCO KOLSAAS NORWAY

S E C R E T COPENHAGEN 1503

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, DA

SUBJECT: COLLOCATED OPERATING BASES - DENMARK (COBS)

REF: COPENHAGEN 0662

1. ON MAY 21, MAJOR GENERAL HARRISON LOBDELL JR., USAF AND MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF FROM USAF HEADQUARTERS EUROPE BRIEFED MEMBERS OF THE DANISH DEFENSE STAFF ON USAF REQUIREMENTS TO "BED BOWN" AUGMENTATION FORCES FROM THE CONTINENTAL US IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS SUCH AS DECLARATION OF NATO INCREASED READINESS AND/OR IMMINENT HOSTILITIES. THE SENIOR DANISH OFFICER PRESENT WAS LT.GEN. K. JORGENSEN, ROYAL DANISH AIR FORCE, CHIEF OF THE DEFESNE STAFF.

2. THE USAF BRIEFING OUTLINED THE NEED TO COLLOCATE AUGMENTATION FORCES AT CERTAIN ALLIED AIR FORCE BASES TO AVOID OVERTAXING PRESENT US FACILITIES IN EUROPE AND CONCLUDED WITH THE REQUEST TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE
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USE OF KARUP AIR BASE AS A COLLOCATED OPERATING BASE (COB)

FOR A SQUADRON OF F-105 AIRCRAFT.

3. THE DANES DISPLAYED A FAVORABLE ATTITUDE TO THE PROPOSAL EVEN BEFORE THE BRIEFING BEGAN. IN HIS OPENING REMARKS, GENERAL JORGENSEN NOTED THAT AUTHORITY TO PREPARE FOR THE US AUGMENTATION FORCES WAS SPECIFICALLY EMBODIED IN THE CURRENT DANISH DEFENSE ACT. AFTER A BRIEF DISCUSSION IN WHICH THE DANES EXPRESSED A PRELIMINARY PREFERENCE FOR AIRCRAFT WITH AIR DEFENSE/AIR SUPERIORITY CAPABILITY (SUCH AS THE F-4), IT APPEARED TO MAAG OBSERVERS THAT THE F-105G, WITH ITS SPECIALIZED ANTI-SAM (WILD WEASEL) ROLL WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE DANISH DEFENSE STAFF.

4. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE DISCUSSION, THE DANES IDENTIFIED PROJECT OFFICERS WHO HAD BEEN DESIGNATED TO EXAMINE THE DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING LEFT BY GENERAL LOBDELL. THEY WILL ALSO CONCERN THEMSELVES WITH CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND SITE SURVEY. WORKING GROUP MEETINGS, IN WHICH USAF OFFICERS FROM RAMSTEIN WILL PARTICIPATE, WERE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE FIRST WEEK IN JUNE.

5. COMMENT: DANISH COOPERATION ON THIS SUBJECT IS ANOTHER REFLECTION OF THEIR DESIRE TO STRENGTHEN THEIR NATO COMMITMENT WHERE POSSIBLE WITHIN THE CONSTRAINTS OF THEIR BUDGET.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, MILITARY BASE AGREEMENTS, MILITARY POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975COPENH01503
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750183-0742
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750520/aaaaarm1.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 COPENHAGEN 0662
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <22 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COLLOCATED OPERATING BASES - DENMARK (COBS)
TAGS: MARR, DA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006